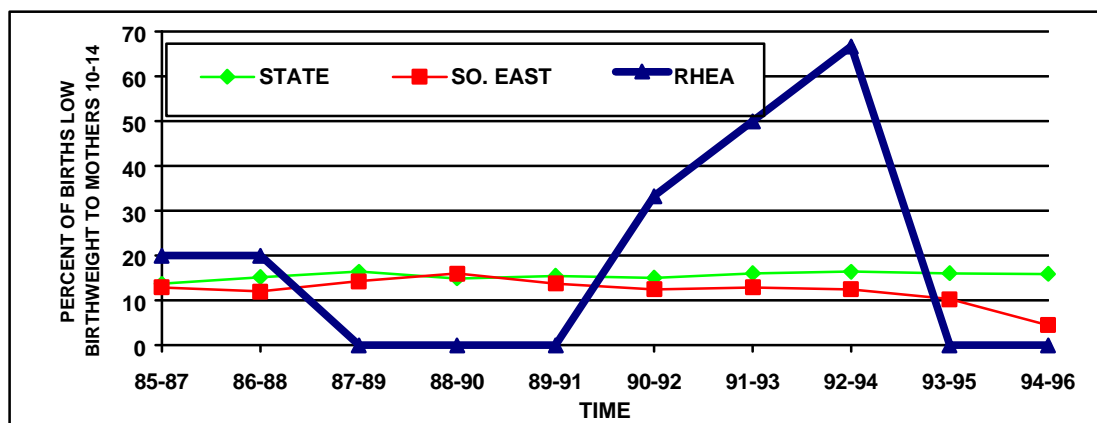


- **Percentage of Births Considered Low Birthweight (Mothers age 10-14) -** The Rhea County rate has been unstable, with periods showing rates higher than the State and the Region. More specifically, their rate fluctuated from 0% in 1987-1989 to 66.7% in 1992-1994, and back down to 0% in 1994-1996.



YEAR	85-87	86-88	87-89	88-90	89-91	90-92	91-93	92-94	93-95	94-96
RHEA CO.	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	50.0	66.7	0.0	0.0

- **Annual Number of Live Births to Mothers Age 10-17, 1990-1994 -** The Rhea County statistics showed some inconsistencies not only in the number of births to teenagers each year, but also in the age at which the births occurred. Generally speaking, most teenage births in Rhea County occur to those 15 and over, resembling the State and Southeast Region.
 

statistics followed State and Regional trends by showing a steady decrease in the number of teenage mothers having their second, third or even fourth child. Specifically, in 1990, nearly 22% of teenage births in the county occurred to teen mothers who had previously been pregnant. However, in 1994, only 7% of the teenage births in Rhea County occurred to previously pregnant mothers.
- **Number of Previous Pregnancies Occurring to Mothers Age 10-17, 1990-1994 -** The Rhea County

### **Rhea County Mortality Experience**

- **Number of Infant Deaths (Death of a live born infant less than 1 year of age) Per 1,000 Live Births -** Rhea County's rate, while unstable due to small numbers, has decreased during the twelve-year trend. The trend is currently lower than the State and has recently risen higher than the Southeast Region. Annually, county residents give birth to about 330 babies each year of which an average of 3 will not live through their first year. The national "Year 2000 Objective" is 7.0 per 1,000 live births.
- **Number of Neonatal Deaths (Death of a live born infant under 28 days of age) Per 1,000 Live Births -** While the trend is moderately unstable due to small numbers, Rhea County's rate of neonatal deaths has recently increased and is slightly higher than the Southeast Region and the State. The data shows that most infant deaths occurring in Rhea County do, in fact, occur within the first 28 days of life.
- **Number of Postneonatal Deaths (Death of a live born infant over 28 days of age, but under 1 year) Per 1,000 Live Births -** While the trend is moderately unstable due to small numbers, Rhea County's rate of postneonatal deaths has decreased and is lower than the State and equal to the Southeast Region.
- **Leading Cause of Death for 1-4 Year Olds With Mortality Rates per 100,000 Population -** The leading cause of death for 1-4 year olds was accidents and adverse affects. The Rhea County trend is unstable due to small numbers but is drastically lower than the State and the Southeast Region. The rates have decreased over the twelve-year trend (25.5 deaths per 100,000 in 1985 to 0.0 deaths per 100,000 in 1996).